

THE N.J.A.A.P.

BULLETIN

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MYSTERIOUS 'RED LIGHTS' IN YUKON, WISCONSIN

Around the beginning of 1964, there were at least two flurries of reports of strange red luminous objects in the skies -- one in the vicinity of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada; the other near Monico, Wisconsin. While it is rather difficult to see what significance may be ascribed to these incidents, it is certainly very curious that two areas so distant from each other should be visited by phenomena so similar almost simultaneously.

The Yukon incidents were discussed in a sympathetic, if rather flippant, vein in an article by June Franklin of the Whitehorse Star, printed in the Times of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan, 2/26/64. The first sighting appears to have taken place between 2:00 and 3:00 on the morning of January 1 (thus undoubtedly winning the title of first UFO incident of the new year), when, according to Misa Franklin, "a Whitehorse resident saw strange red lights in the sky while she was baby-sitting in the downtown area. The lights resembled 60-watt bulbs colored a deep red (she said) and appeared to 'go up and down.' No porch lights were on anywhere and no similar mundane explanation presented itself." The lights were seen again a week later by Miss Franklin herself, "soon after 5 p.m.... They were like 60 watt bulbs colored a deep red, and they went up and down. They seemed to hover above the town with no accompanying noise, and their movement was reminiscent of a 'mobile'." They did not (cont'd on p. 3)

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE CASE FROM FORT WORTH

On January 27, 1964, that rarity among UFO reports occurred over Fort Worth, Texas: a UFO dropped tangibles, physical evidence. What is more, this evidence is under investigation by competent authorities.

According to the Fort Worth Morning Telegram (the date is unfortunately uncertain; it is evidently in the last few days of January), a luminous object was observed in the sky over the Benbrook area at about 8:00 P.M. by Ronald J. Jones and his wife. As the Jones watched, the UFO followed an erratic course for a distance of about eight blocks until it was over the home of Melvin L. Lewis; then, according to Jones, "it hovered for two or three minutes over the house, then fell and burst into flames, setting fire to the Lewis' lawn." The two families extinguished the fire and retrieved from it bits of metal which had evidently belonged to the mysterious object. "It was lightweight and looked charred," Jones described it. "It also smelled of sulphur."

Samples of the metal, weighing a total of less than an ounce, were collected by one Oscar Monrig, allegedly "one of the Southwest's leading authorities on meteorites." Monrig then turned them over to two professors at Texas Christian University, Professor Leo Baggerly of the physics department, and Dr. Arthur Ehlmann of the geology department, for analysis. Preliminary

(cont'd on p. 5)

EXCUSE DEPT.

It is ~~extremely~~ painful and distasteful to lapse into the posture which seems so characteristic of UFOlogy today -- that of apology -- but, as we begin the first issue of the NJAAP Bulletin that we have published for the past six months, we find ourself shamefacedly guilty of a monumental delay that really demands some apologizing for. Unlike some groups, we cannot plead that our silence was due to all-absorbing efforts on our part toward the advancement of the cause of UFOlogy; no, we must confess with a blush that we were not occupied with UFO's at all, but rather with that great nemesis of all UFO work which rests uncomfortably upon the ~~teen~~-age researcher's shoulders from September to June -- or, to be more specific, with a 305-page research paper on the anthropological aspects of witchcraft, for English class. We can offer no justification for our negligence; we can only hang our head in shame, beg the reader's forgiveness, and promise to stick more faithfully to our schedule in the future. Needless to say, all memberships will be extended to make up for the delay.

The past few months, however, were not entirely dark for us. We are pleased to report that we have won a total of \$220 in the National Scholastic Writing Contest for various entries, including the \$100 Earnestine Taggard Award, which is given yearly to "the entrant whose work shows the most outstanding ability in varied writing forms." (See Literary Cavalcade, May 1964). In addition, we find that we have won first prize in the Fifth National Bible Contest sponsored by the World Jewish Bible Society; and, as this consists of a trip to Israel, we will be in the Holy Land from July 7 to August 31 of this year.

During our absence, NJAAP will be governed by our Assistant Director, Jerome Clark, P.O. Box 123, Canby, Minnesota, 56220. All letters sent to our address, unless marked PERSONAL, will be forwarded to him for his perusal and reply.

While we are in Israel, however, we would greatly enjoy hearing from our UFOlogical friends in America. Unless otherwise notified, we may be reached at the following address:

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Apologizing for the unwonted brevity of this Bulletin (as we are sure you will understand, we are very occupied at present with preparations for leaving), we wish you all a very happy summer, and look forward to being with you again in September, when we shall bring you a complete up-to-date report on UFO activity in Israel.

The N.J.A.A.P. Bulletin, Vol. II, No. 4, July 1964. Published by the New Jersey Association on Aerial Phenomena (NJAAP), 186 Lakeside Drive, Levittown, Pennsylvania 19054. Director: Dave Halperin. Assistant Director: Jerome Clark. Special Advisors: Ivan T. Sanderson (naturalist and author), Dr. Philip Morrison (Professor of Physics, Cornell University). Dues: \$2.00 for six bi-monthly issues of The N.J.A.A.P. Bulletin. Quotations permitted if source is acknowledged.

'Red Lights' (cont'd)

travel across the sky. I estimated their position as somewhere between the centre of Whitehorse and the airport, a distance of perhaps two or three miles." Other sightings were made that night, apparently of the same objects. Their third appearance seems to have been on January 28, when two Whitehorse residents observed them late at night, while driving to a movie.

A number of explanations, including signal flares, were advanced to account for the mystery lights, but none could be considered satisfactory.

Regrettably, our information on the Wisconsin sightings is extremely sketchy, consisting entirely of a brief story in the Rhineland News, 1/11/64: "A Crandon woman who has been reading of the various reports of 'flying objects' sighted in the area, called The News Friday afternoon to say that she saw an object similar to those described in the Monico area on or about Christmas Day.

"Mrs. Frank Bartz said she and her husband were driving toward Crandon from Monico on Highway 8 at about 9 p.m. when she spotted a bright red object going across the sky. She said she saw the object for only a short time, adding that her husband did not see it.

"She said she did not think too much of the sighting until she read of other persons reporting similar objects in the area."

Unfortunately, we do not possess any clippings describing the January sightings which are referred to in this story, and can provide no details on them. Any readers who can help us out in this respect are earnestly urged to do so.

Finally, we have a report from Bernards Township, New Jersey, which we probably have no excuse for including in this article other than that it involved a red luminous object. According to the Somerset Hills Exponent (2/27/64), many persons saw a huge red fireball streaking across the sky early on the morning of February 19. It was described by some observers as being about 1000 feet high and five feet in diameter, but such estimates are necessarily subjective and inaccurate. It was repeatedly stated that the apparition was accompanied by a sound, variously described as that of "a low flying aircraft" and "resembling a crash," which suggests that whatever it was landed or fell somewhere.

Normally, we would brand such a sighting as an extremely bright meteor(ite) and leave it at that, but there is one circumstance in this case which rules out such a meteoric explanation: it was snowing at the time that the object was seen, and, hence, obviously there must have been a cloud cover; the thing was clearly flying at a relatively low altitude. It is difficult to avoid postulating a UFO connection; and it is at least an odd fact that "the fireball was seen on a flight path, on a line between the two local airfields." This last circumstance is of course very indicative of some sort of intelligent purpose (see Ivan Sanderson's article in the January NJAAP Bulletin).

The reports discussed in this article, particularly the last, should be carefully compared both with the Fort Worth sighting described elsewhere in this issue and the article on falling UFO's in the January Bulletin.

MORE SPOTS NEAR ARISTARCHUS

Readers who recall our story on the strange "ruby" spots observed last fall near the lunar crater Aristarchus, in the January Bulletin, may be interested to know that a similar sighting was made from the New York area early on the morning of June 6, 1964. According to the "Talk of the Town" column of the New Yorker, 6/20/64, the observations were made through an eight-inch reflecting telescope situated on the roof of the Fieldston School auditorium, where reposed the somewhat makeshift observatory of the Amateur Astronomers Association of New York. The observers were Mr. Gilbert T. Schmidling, the Association's lunar recorder; his son David; a lawyer named Stoddard D. Platt; a staff representative at the R.C.A. Exhibition Hall named Glen St. Clair; and the New Yorker writer. We take the liberty of quoting the description of the sighting, in the New Yorker's inimitable style:

"We squinted through the eyepiece. Aristarchus, twenty-seven miles in diameter, was a great pale pockmark, and to its right was a slightly smaller one -- Herodotus. Schröter's Valley was a spidery arm extending downward from Herodotus. /It should be recalled that the image was inverted./ We announced that we saw a tiny russet smudge on what appeared to be a spur connecting the two craters, and then that the smudge had resolved itself into a hard reddish-brown dot against the side of Herodotus. Mr. St. Clair took a look and said he saw it, and so, a moment later, did David. Mr. Platt wasn't sure, but after a full minute at the telescope he said he thought he could make out a faint glimmer.

"Let me have a look at it," Mr. Schmidling said. He stared into the telescope, but after several minutes he said sadly that he couldn't see any glow. 'Some people can distinguish one hundred shades of white, and I can't even see a red glow,' he added fretfully. He took his glasses off and tried again.

"Meanwhile, David and Mr. St. Clair drew rough maps of where they had seen the glow. The maps were alike -- a fact that seemed to confirm the reality of the phenomenon. We took another look at the craters, and this time there was a second speck of russet on a spur jutting upward from Aristarchus. This was confirmed by Mr. St. Clair, and so was an impression we'd gained that the spots were redder than before.

"Mr. Schmidling was beside himself. 'I can see all the features, but I'll be darned if I can see any glow,' he said querulously.

"The morning twilight had begun, and the birds of Riverdale were starting to twitter. David and Mr. St. Clair set about tidying up, but Mr. Schmidling kept his eye glued to the telescope.

"Hey!" he cried, at last. 'Now I see it! It's a sharp glow, like a real ruby gem.'

"Mr. Schmidling then said that the Astronomers Association would make an announcement to the press, and the session concluded with peanuts all around."

Physical Evidence (cont'd)

studies apparently indicated a high percentage of magnesium in the puzzling material.¹

We regret that we do not as yet have the results of this analysis; our Assistant Director, Jerome Clark, is investigating the case for NJAAP, but we do not have his report at the time of this writing. Whatever he is able to discover will be printed in the September Bulletin. However, one statement by Monnig should be especially noted: "I've heard tales like this, but this is the first time I have been able to investigate one immediately." Does this suggest that similar incidents have occurred frequently -- perhaps far more frequently than we would dare to presume -- but have as yet never been released to the American people?

UFO'S AND KENTUCKY RIVERS

In our article on UFO's with lighted windows (NJAAP Bulletin, January, 1964), we cited a report made by Mr. Cecil D. Clayton in the late 1950's, adding that the correlation which we had established in such cases with bodies of water did not seem to apply to that sighting. In a letter to us, dated 2/23/64, Mr. Clayton commented:

"In regard to your theory of U.F.O.'s following rivers and shore lines of lakes, and saying that there was only Little River near my sighting; Little River passes through Hopkinsville, Red River passes through Clarksville, Tenn. I was about halfway between those two cities. Also a few miles east of Madisonville is Pond River, a few miles west is Tradewater River, and there are many lakes and strip mine pits near Madisonville. The coal mine lake where my brothers-in-law were fishing is about half-way between Pond and Tradewater Rivers.

"Pond, Little, Tradewater and Red Rivers are small rivers, but Red River empties into the Cumberland at Clarksville, and the Cumberland runs through Nashville and Clarksville on its way to the Ohio at Smithland. A line drawn from Nashville to Madisonville passes near Clarksville, Fort Campbell and Hopkinsville. From Hopkinsville it is about one hour's time at the speed the U.F.O. was cruising to many points on the Ohio; from Henderson to Paducah.

"Kentucky Lake (largest man-made lake in the world) is a short distance from Clarksville and reaches from near the Ohio at Paducah across Ky. and Tenn. to Alabama. It has a dam, locks and hydro-electric generating plant near Paducah, and the Cumberland is now lying damned to form Lake Barkley.... This lake will be connected by canal to Ky. Lake.

"So, if the U.F.O.'s are attracted by rivers, lakes, Army installation and industrial plants etc., this one was smack in the middle of all these items."

¹ Magnesium has frequently occurred as a principal component in UFO material which has been analyzed. For examples, see Cordoba City (8/21/57) Ubatuba (September 1957), and Grand Forks, North Dakota (12/17/57); (Shadow of the Unknown, pp. 33f, 83).

INCIDENTS FROM HACKENSACK

Sometime ago, NJAAP's Skywatch Coordinator, John Nove' of Hackensack, New Jersey, sent us two sightings made by two friends of his on the night of April 4, 1964. The details are quite vague and, by the time we got around to checking into them, we were unable to secure any further information. However, we quote John's report here:

"I -- At approximatel 7:28 P.M., a formation (not geometric) of 10 UFO's was seen traveling from overhead to the northern horizon. The transit took approximately 2 seconds, no sound was audible and the formation was surrounded with nebulosity.

"II -- At approximately 7:43, nine UFO's traveling in V-formations of three each was seen rising from where the previous flight had set. They appeared to be of the brightness of a 1st magnitude star and approximatel 3 degrees from one another. Three degrees behind the last formation followed two jets in hot pursuit. The jets and the UFO's were in no way alike. They set about 20 seconds later in the northeast.

"At about 8:10, Echo II was seen traveling from the north to the southeast."

It is difficult to evaluate these sightings from the scanty data which we have, but it does not seem that they can be explained as conventional phenomena. John Nove', however, writes (6/17/64) that his father "said that a few Saturday nights before the night of the sighting, he observed very much similar craft accompanied by the sound of aircraft engines," which hints at a terrestrial origin for the objects.

UFO CONGRESS HELD IN CLEVELAND

The long-awaited Congress of Scientific UFOlogists, sponsored by the American UFO Committee (AUFOC), under the joint Directorship of Ricky Hilberg, Dale Rettig, and Allen Greenfield, was held in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 18, 19, 20, and 21. Although the number of out-of-town UFOlogists attending the Congress was disappointingly small, the public attendance at the open session in the Cleveland YMCA on the evening of June 20 was little short of overwhelming, surpassing 300 -- and, although the evening was abominably hot, the audience was so engrossed in the presentation that no one stirred until its conclusion.

Among the UFOlogists at the Congress were Allan Mapak, Chairman of the Cleveland UFOlogy Project; Earl Neff, host of the Cleveland radio show "UFO Round Table"; Brian Akers, NICAP Youth Council Member for Ohio; James W. Moseley, editor and publisher of Saucer News; and ourself.

The open session included talks given by Earl Neff, James Moseley, and ourself; a showing of UFO slides, given by Ricky Hilberg; and a scientific movie on the universe. UFO photographs and magazines were sold in an adjoining room before and after the presentation, and during the intermission. The session was followed by an all-night skywatch.

Public UFO interest in Cleveland, unquestionably at a high pitch prior to the Congress, was certainly stimulated greatly by it.

While the Congress certainly had its defects, its general success can best be summed up in the words of Allen Greenfield: "I...consider the Congress a success, since we did prove that IT CAN BE DONE; you can hold a large scale UFO convention completely devoid of the contactee and cultist elements." And, this having been demonstrated, we can look forward to next year's Congress (for which planning has already begun) as one of the great coming events of UFOlogy.

A CLOSE-RANGE SIGHTING FROM NORTH DAKOTA...

A most interesting, if rather dated, item, appearing in the Cavalier, North Dakota, Chronicle, 12/5/63, has recently come to our attention. For obvious reasons, we have not had the opportunity to check it out personally, but quote it here for whatever it may be worth:

"Two Neche high school girls enroute home at night sighted an 'Unidentified Flying Object' which, they said, circled their car at high speed and at no great distance from it before disappearing.

"The girls, Nita Kain and Cherly Kelm, said they were returning home on Highway 55, east of Neche, when they sighted the UFO which they said was oval in shape and of indeterminate size. It was colored bright orange and appeared surrounded by a light haze.

"The girls said the object sped across the front of their automobile and circled it to the side before disappearing to the southeast."

...AND A VANISHING 'PARACHUTE' FROM IDAHO

In the same class of unsubstantiated but interesting reports is a strange story from the Rexburg, Idaho, Standard, 2/17/64. According to the newspaper account, on the evening of February 13, 1964, Mr. Glen Tuckett of Hibbard observed something that looked like "a white parachute with some dark object hanging beneath it" descending slowly in a westerly direction from his house. "It passed over some trees near the river, seemed to level off and then fell to earth in the vicinity of the river, said Mr. Tuckett." Tuckett was unable to locate the object that evening when he went out to search for it, and had no better success canvassing the area in his airplane the next morning.

The authorities were unable to offer any explanations the Madison County sheriff's officer and the Federal Aviation Agency at Idaho Falls both denied that any planes had gone down in the area. Tuckett himself theorized that it might be a weather balloon -- but then how can we explain its mysterious disappearance? On the other hand, however, if we examine the case in the light of the "angel hair" phenomenon, the disappearance of the "parachute" can be easily accounted for. It seems probable, therefore, that, if the newspaper account is correct, the Hibbard mystery should be associated with UFO's, and added to the file on angel hair.

COMING IN FUTURE ISSUES:

*Thoughtful studies in UFOlogy by Assistant Director Jerome Clark, including examinations of contact reports, the Bender mystery, and the weird enigma of the "Allende letters."

*Striking theory of John Nove' that UFO operations in late 1962 were directed from a base in Antarctica, established in July of that year.

*More significant information on and analyses of the British crater mysteries of the summer of 1963.

*Thoroughly investigated first-hand reports of UFO's.

*And much, much more.

RADARSCOPE PHOTO OF PHILADELPHIA UFO OBTAINED

A new and startling bit of evidence has been added recently to the dossier on the radar-visual sighting(s) made over Philadelphia on the night of July 30-31, 1963, described in great detail in the November 1963 NJAA Bulletin, a radarscope photograph showing an elliptical UFO with two smaller circular UFO's above it, taken on a Philadelphia weatherscope (further details concerning which cannot be disclosed), and passed on to us by researcher George D. Fawcett, of Easton, Pennsylvania.

The date of this radar sighting was given to us as July 20, 1963; although it does not coincide with that of the UFO activity described in the November Bulletin, we feel that it is nevertheless close enough to be significant.

There are a number of features of the radarscope photo which bear a distinct resemblance to the sighting of July 31. The photograph depicts one large UFO accompanied by two smaller ones; the radar at the Philadelphia International Airport picked up three unexplained blips, of which only one was prominent enough to be detected by the pilots who went up to investigate. The photograph shows the UFO's in the northwest quadrant of the 'scope; the International Airport radarmen first noticed the three blips in the northwest quadrant, although the objects subsequently moved off to the northeast.

Although we cannot reconcile the puzzling and annoying disparity of dates, we adhere to the opinion that the weatherscope photograph has a significant bearing upon the sightings of over a week later.

If any readers are interest in obtaining a photostat of the radarscope photo, they may do so by sending \$.30 to this office to cover duplicating and mailing costs -- any time after August 31.

Special Article:A CHRONOLOGY OF THE 1964 FLAP

At approximately 5:45 P.M. on April 24, 1964, a metallic egg-shaped object, somewhat larger than an automobile, was seen to take off from a gully near Socorro, New Mexico, by a policeman named Lennie Zamora. This sighting, the first UFO report to receive nationwide publicity in several years, was followed by an enormous rash of incidents which lasted all through the rest of April and May into the early part of June. While we are presently too close to this flap to truly evaluate it in perspective, there seems little doubt that the spring of 1964 saw the most intensive UFO activity since the flap of November 1957.

In this article on the 1964 flap, there are a number of things which we are not going to do. We are not going to rehash the details of the Zamora sighting for the nth time, nor are we going to attempt to "scoop" anybody on anything. On the other hand, we are not going to try to evaluate the significance of the flap at present. Largely owing to the time factor, we have not made any serious attempts as yet to determine orthotenic alignments or any other patterns involved in the recent wave of sightings; this can wait for later, when all of the information is in, and when the passage of time will have completely freed us from the temptation to exaggerate the importance of the 1964 sightings merely because they are recent. Instead, we are presenting a complete and orderly chronology of the 83 sightings from April, May and June which have come to our attention so far, concentrating largely on the numerous interesting reports which have received little publicity or have been obscured in the clamor over the Socorro incident. It is our hope that our readers may use this chronology as an aid toward more detailed and profound studies of the flap over the summer, particularly in regard to orthoteny, and will communicate their findings to us upon our return.

We do, however, wish to make one comment on the flap, calling our readers' attention to the very close analogy between it and the 1957 flap. In both, the sightings began in the Southwest, after which the center of concentration moved gradually into the Midwest and as far eastward as Ohio (this trend suggests that the East may begin to experience UFO activity soon, although this is not paralleled by the 1957 wave); in both, many landings and close-range sightings were reported; in both, the most commonly-reported UFO shape was oval, at least at the beginning of the flap; both included a few reports of the occupants of the UFO's being observed; a case of a person being burned by a UFO occurred in both (Stokes in 1957); and both involved at least one case of electro-magnetic interference, although there were many more such cases in 1957 than in 1964. It would probably be premature to attempt to evaluate the significance of this similarity here, but it does appear to be of considerable importance.²

We proceed to the chronology:

1. April 24. The Zamora sighting.³ The details of this are so widely known that it would be superfluous to repeat them here, although we do consider it worthwhile to quote the official Air Force account of it in its entirety (see Appendix). It is universally agreed that Zamora was absolutely sincere and honest; Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the Air Force's scientific consultant on UFO's, described him as "completely reliable" and asserted that he "definitely saw

²An excellent history of the 1957 flap is provided by Alexander D. Mebane in his Appendix to Michol's Flying Saucers and the Straight-Line Mystery (Criterion, 1958), pp. 233-77.

³We do not think it necessary to give newspaper documentation. For a good account, see Mrs. Coral Lorenzon's article in Fate, August 1964.

something."⁴ It appears that Zamora did see two small humanoid figures in coveralls near the craft,⁵ and not just a pair of coveralls on the ground, as later newspaper reports stated. The configuration of the red markings allegedly seen by Zamora on the side of the craft is not at all clear: they have been described variously as "an inverted V with 3 bars crossing it,"⁶ "an upper crescent with a vertical line in the center and a cross-bar below,"⁷ and "a crescent with a vertical arrow and horizontal line underneath."⁸ It should be noted, in passing, that Zamora's widely quoted statement that he would keep silent about any similar experiences in the future suggests that he underwent a highly unpleasant questioning at the hands of the Air Force. For those who wish to use the sighting in an orthotonic study, its precise location was about one mile south of Socorro.

2. April 24. An interesting if somewhat dubious case, of the "borderline contact" type,⁹ was reported from a dairy farm a few miles northeast of Newark Valley, Tioga County, New York -- an exception to the Southwest's monopoly on UFO sightings during the first days of the flap. The alleged witness was 27-year-old Gary T. Wilcox, owner of the farm. Wilcox related that, shortly before 10:00 A.M., while inspecting a V-shaped field on his farm to see if it was suitable for plowing, he observed a shiny object resting on the ground which he at first thought to be a discarded refrigerator which had been reposing in the field for some time. He quickly perceived that it was not the refrigerator but some sort of shiny egg-shaped craft, twenty feet long and sixteen feet wide; when he touched it, he felt no heat. As he was examining it, two humanoids, about four feet tall, suddenly appeared; they were wearing seamless clothing and odd hoods which concealed their faces (breathing apparatus?), and "appeared to have arms and legs, but he could not tell whether they had feet and toes."

The creatures began to speak to Wilcox in good English, informing him that they were from the planet Mars and meant him no harm -- "we have talked to people before." They queried him at some length concerning agricultural techniques, particularly concerning organic material, about which they seemed singularly ignorant; they claimed to grow their food in the atmosphere, but expected to encounter difficulties due to "changes in the universe." They told Wilcox that "they can only travel to this planet every 2 years and they are presently using the Western Hemisphere," and that human astronauts would be unable to withstand the conditions of space. They made the most peculiar remark that "they land only during daylight hours because their ship is less readily visible in daylight. They expressed surprise that he had seen the craft." All during the conversation, Wilcox had the feeling that their voices seemed to emanate from their bodies rather than their heads, perhaps suggesting some sort of mechanical speakers.

Before leaving, the creatures told Wilcox that it would be best for him to keep silent about his encounter "for your own good," although they made no threats; possibly they were thinking of the ridicule of his neighbors.

The beings each carried a tray filled with soil aboard their craft, and, before leaving, asked Wilcox if they might have some organic material. He replied in the affirmative, and set off to get a bag of fertilizer; the object then took off (why they should have departed at that point is not clear) without

⁴Painesville, Ohio, Telegraph, 5/9/64.

⁵See Lorenzen, op. cit.; the AF release (given in the Appendix); and NICAP, Special Bulletin, June 8, 1964.

⁶Los Angeles Herald Examiner, 4/28/64.

⁷NICAP, op. cit.

⁸AF release.

⁹For a delineation of the "borderline contact," see Jerome Clark and Roger Birner, "What is a 'Contact?'" UFO News Bulletin (former name for NJAAP Bulletin), July-August 1962.

any exhaust, or, apparently, disturbance of the dust. Wilcox left the bag of fertilizer at the spot where he had met the creatures. When he returned the next day it was gone.¹⁰

It is difficult to evaluate this story. In itself it is certainly extremely incredible, although far from impossible (it should be kept in mind that it is quite possible that, assuming Wilcox to have been telling the truth, the creatures gave him false information). Wilcox seems to have been regarded as fairly reliable by his neighbors, and he does not appear to have had any motive for perpetrating a hoax. On the other hand, it is certainly suspicious that he did not report the sighting for over a week after it allegedly occurred; and, while we should keep an open mind, the report "must be viewed with skepticism."¹¹ If true, it is certainly of extreme importance.

3. April 25. The following item may have no UFO connection, but should not be omitted: At 1:25 A.M., a tremendous blast rocked the south side of Dillon, Montana, preceded by a brilliant flash of light in the southeastern sky. The source of the explosion was never discovered.¹²

4. April 25. There is a vague allusion in a newspaper story to an object, apparently egg-shaped, seen by two men driving that night near La Madera, New Mexico.¹³

5. April 26. A Santa Fe resident named Orlando Gallegos reported to State Police that he had observed a UFO early that morning at La Madera that "looked like an egg-shaped butane tank...as long as a telephone pole and about 14 feet in circumference."¹⁴ Gallegos, who was able to get within 200 feet of the UFO, stated that the object had numerous flame-spurting jets on its underside. State Police Captain Martin Vigil, checking the ground 20 hours later, found it still smoldering -- "rocks in the center of the area were split, a bottle was melted and green brush had been set on fire, evidently by intense heat."¹⁵ Four depressions in the ground and "paw prints, like a mountain lion's" were also discovered. Vigil concluded, not unnaturally, that "there was definitely something there."

6. April 26. An Albuquerque resident named George Mitropolis observed a "flying bathtub" near Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, while driving north from El Paso. At the intersection of Routes 85 and 180, he observed a "silver looking object," resembling an inverted thirty-foot-long bathtub, approximately a quarter of a mile to the east of him. As Mitropolis watched, the UFO went "up, over a mountain, and down out of sight near Caballo Reservoir."¹⁶ We have been unable to ascertain the time of the sighting.

7. April 26. "Socorro policeman Bill Pyland said a girl, who didn't give her name, reported a fire in the hilly area one mile southwest of Socorro Sunday night....Pyland said the girl, about 18, said she was from 300 to 500 feet from the fire and she thought there was something in the flames. Pyland said a search of the area found nothing."¹⁷

8. April 27. Late in the day, eight children at Crosby School in El Paso, Texas, observed a UFO hovering above the school grounds. 12-year-old Kathy Boone described the object which she had seen out of the school window as follows: "It seemed to be floating in the air, covered with something like

¹⁰Binghamton, New York, Press, 5/7/64; Binghamton Sun-Bulletin, 5/8/64.

¹¹NECAP, op. cit.

¹²Dillon Daily Tribune, 4/27/64.

¹³Albuquerque Journal, 4/28/64.

¹⁴Ibid.

¹⁵Los Angeles Herald Examiner, 4/28/64.

¹⁶Los Angeles Times, 4/28/64; FSIC Bulletin, June 1964 (this excellent UFOzine is published monthly by the Flying Saucer Investigating Committee of Akron, Ohio. Write: A.E. Comdusso, P.O. Drawer G, Akron, Ohio, 44305).

¹⁷Los Angeles Times, 4/28/64.

a sheet. It was about 6 feet 5 inches tall and sort of egg-shaped."¹⁸ A search of the school grounds revealed nothing.

9. April 27. "A big ball of red flames" was allegedly seen to land at night near Las Vegas, New Mexico, by a man who insisted on remaining anonymous for fear of ridicule.¹⁹

10. April 28. Shortly after midnight, a UFO was shot at near Moriarty, New Mexico. Don Adams, a 20-year-old resident of Edgewood, New Mexico, related that, as he was driving on U.S. Route 66 near Moriarty, he saw a light green (apparently luminous) oblong object, 25 to 30 feet long, hovering about 100 feet directly above the highway. As Adams attempted to drive his car under the UFO, the vehicle stalled (nota bene).²⁰ Adams got out of his car and fired six .22-calibre pistol shots at the object; he heard each bullet bounce off. As he was reloading, the object moved away to the north; Adams fired six more shots at it, but could not tell whether or not they hit it.²¹ "Investigating state policemen said the man was completely 'sober'."²² (Query: Precisely what did Adams hope to accomplish by shooting at the UFO -- and what must have been the reaction of the UFO's pilots?)

11. April 28. Shortly before 12:30 P.M., 10-year-old Sharon Spull observed an egg-shaped UFO, "slightly smaller than an airplane," in the northeastern sky from the grounds of the Lowell Elementary School in Albuquerque. It is not clear how far Sharon was from the object; according to one account, the UFO hovered, then "bounced up and down about 3 times in the sky and then left"²³ -- whatever picture that may conjure up. In any case, Sharon watched the thing for 5 or 10 minutes; her 8-year-old sister Robin also saw it but refused to look at it for any length of time. Sharon was later to regret her gazing at the object, for "after 1 p.m. while in class she noticed a burning sensation about the eyes and face....Sharon was treated by a doctor at Bataan Hospital last night and was kept in bed at home today with her blinds drawn to protect her inflamed eyes and eyelids....Part of her face and nose appeared to be puffy and red. She continued to complain of burn pains....Sharon's doctor said his diagnosis is conjunctivitis (membrane inflammation) of both eyes and first degree sunburn under the eyes and on the nose, adding: 'The sun exposure she had yesterday would usually be considered insufficient to cause the burns and inflammation caused by longer exposure to the sun.'"²⁴

12. April 28. At 5:30 P.M., two UFO's were observed by a truck driver named Napoleon Green and his wife as they were driving toward Albuquerque on U.S. Route 85, about 17 miles north of Socorro. The objects were egg-shaped, apparently silvery, about half as large as jet planes and travelling at the speed of jets. "Green said he saw them possibly 2 minutes before they disappeared over the eastern horizon."²⁵

13. April 28. At 9:05 P.M., a UFO was seen by Myrna Johnson, of Northampton Township, Ohio. "A hovering, pulsating, white star-like object was seen approaching from the ENE. When it reached a position almost overhead, it stopped, retreated a short distance, came forward again, became motionless. It pulsed a few times, then moved slowly westward, gaining altitude. It changed color to a glowing deep red and seemed to grow larger, and disappeared high into the

¹⁸El Paso Herald Post, 4/28/64.

¹⁹Los Angeles Herald Examiner, 4/28/64.

²⁰Ibid.

²¹Albuquerque Tribune, 4/28/64.

²²El Paso Herald Post, 4/28/64.

²³Albuquerque Journal, 4/29/64.

²⁴Albuquerque Tribune, 4/29/64.

²⁵Ibid.

distance."²⁶

14. April 28. Apparently during the daytime, a group of children and a pair of adults independently reported seeing "a round, white object" which hovered over Hobbs, New Mexico, then moved off to the northeast.²⁷

15. April 28. At Las Cruces, New Mexico, between 10:00 and 10:30 P.M., "a State Policeman and four employees of the port of entry station on Interstate 10 south of the city reported sighting a luminous object...moving in a jerky motion and changing directions. State Policeman Paul Arteche of Anthony answered the call from the port of entry and on his way to the station also sighted the object. He said it was moving northwest. The pilot of a private airplane made a similar report about the same time...."²⁸

16. April 28. At 10:30 P.M., a UFO was seen over Cheyenne, Wyoming, by three women: Mrs. Frank Martin, Mrs. Max De Weese, and Mrs. Robert C. Rose. As the women were returning from a bingo game at Warren AFB, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Rose saw a huge tear-drop-shaped light with a slight tail streaking across the sky. Fifteen minutes later, Mrs. De Weese and Mrs. Rose observed two similar lights: "It was a great big round flash of light, and then it was gone. Then another came behind it. They were both the same size and very fast."²⁹

16. April 29. Early in the afternoon, a high-flying disk was seen in the western sky from Rock Springs, Wyoming, by a group of eight students, another group of eleven students, a junior high school teacher named Richard Surline, and another adult named Keith Boyce. The first group of students observed the UFO through a telescope: as it moved into the west, it "seemed to turn, and present a flat side and an edge, and...light came out of the sides of the object." Surline stated: "It looked like a black, flat disk at first. Then it gained altitude and turned silver. Keith Boyce called me at about 12:30 p.m. to ask if I had seen it. I watched it until about 2:30 p.m. It was definitely higher than jet trails in the sky." The other group of students saw it as "agg-shaped, wobbling, green in color and turning to silver." It was evidently visible all afternoon and early evening; shortly before it disappeared behind a cloud, it seemed "to move rapidly eastward."³⁰

17. April 29. At approximately 9:30 P.M., four children allegedly observed a UFO taking off from a barren slope near Canyon Ferry Village, Montana. According to their story, the oval object was first seen resting on the slope by 11-year-old Linda Davis. The newspaper story goes on to relate that Linda "rounded up three neighborhood friends," but the caption to an accompanying photograph lists four other names: "Pete Rust, 13; Diane Flittner, 15;...Linda Flittner, 16; and Tom Davis, 15."³¹ However this may be, the UFO allegedly took off in a flash of light when the youngsters approached it; about the same time, a UFO "bright as an arc light" was seen in the sky by several Helena residents. When the local police inspected the hillside late that night, they discovered that "there were 4 indentations in the earth about 13 feet apart in a square pattern [reporters, however, allegedly discovered the holes to be "in an imperfect rectangle"]. Each hole is from 6 to 8 inches in diameter and they are tapered toward the bottom as though made by a cone-shaped object. Each of the holes is from 6 to 8 inches deep. Slightly off center and between the four

²⁶FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

²⁷Albuquerque Tribune, 4/29/64.

²⁸Ibid.

²⁹Cheyenne State Tribune, 4/30/64; Rock Springs, Wyoming, Rocket, 4/30/64.

³⁰Rock Springs Rocket, 4/30/64.

³¹Helena Independent Record, 4/30/64.

holes is a scorched area about 4 feet in diameter indicating that extreme heat had been present in that area."³² Although most of the Canyon Ferry Village residents firmly believed in the youngsters' veracity, the Air Force sleuths decided that the case "was a hoax perpetrated by children who wanted to play a trick on a younger sister and the show got out of control."³³ For reasons which seem obvious, the parents and neighbors of the children "strongly challenged this answer."³⁴

18. April 30. A UFO, enlighteningly described as a "whats-it" in the newspaper story (approximately 90% of which was devoted to stale and slightly tasteless quips about little green men) was seen near Austin Bluff, Colorado; a few of the journalistic witticisms seem to suggest that the whats-it landed.³⁵ An item given by NICAP may have a bearing on the case: "About May 10-16; nr Colorado Springs, Colorado. Report from member that his cousin in Colorado said there had been multiple landings, imprints on ground. Status: So far a rumor. NICAP attempting to confirm." Considering the hazy status of this report, it seems possible that the date given by NICAP is incorrect, and the description refers to the April 30 report.

19. April 30. Approximately 10 miles west of Baker, California, a UFO was observed by three motorists (Gus Biggs, his wife and mother-in-law, Mrs. Lorene Ayres, all of Fontana, California) on their way to Las Vegas. They first saw the object "crouched on a hilltop just off U.S. Highway 91....Mrs. Gloria Biggs was quoted as saying: 'At first we thought it was a water tower, but as we got closer we knew it was something we'd never seen before.' She said she, her husband and her mother, Mrs. Ayres, watched the smooth, brownish dome-shaped object for about five or six minutes while their car was moving. She said the object disappeared from its hilltop perch when they looked away for a moment. Mrs. Biggs said the only subsequent sign of the object's presence on the hilltop was a large depression in the ground."³⁶ The time was not given.

20. April 30. Two nine-year-old boys claimed to have observed a UFO for over thirty minutes between 2:00 and 3:00 P.M. from the grounds of the Butler Elementary School at Salt Lake City, Utah. The description of the UFO was not given in the story, but one statement ("the two boys...said a car drove to the general area, and that it was much smaller than the object they saw") indicates that someone had suggested that the UFO might actually have been an automobile. One gathers from this that the object was metallic, oval in shape, and that it was reported to have landed or hovered low. Principal Delbert Crump, however, said that he was "inclined to discount the story and credit it to youthful imagination."³⁷

21. April 30. Shortly before 5:00 P.M., four Alamosa, Colorado, children, ranging in age from 12 to 14, reportedly observed a metallic egg-shaped object flying slowly in a curved path in a northeasterly direction, toward Mount Blanca. They had it in sight for about three minutes before it disappeared into a cloud. It was flat and "appeared to have a protruding band around it" (like the object photographed in 1958 over Trindade Isle). The children were able to hear a distinct low, steady hum coming from the UFO until it was drowned out by the roar of an airplane which flew into the area. Noble C. Cantvoort, associate professor of mathematics and astronomy at Adams State College, attested to the

³²Ibid.

³³Arkansas Gazette, 5/6/64. Our thanks to James D. Wardle, Secretary, Salt Lake UFO Council, 424 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84111.

³⁴NICAP, op. cit.

³⁵Colorado Springs Free Press, 5/1/64.

³⁶Salt Lake Tribune, 5/1/64. Our thanks to James D. Wardle.

³⁷Deseret News and Telegram, 5/1/64. Our thanks to James D. Wardle.

children's reliability -- "I don't think there is any doubt that they saw something, but I don't know what it could have been" -- and stated that it was possible that the UFO was an extraterrestrial craft. Police Chief Nyle Langston, however, knew better: the UFO was actually a balloon coated with luminous paint, sent up as a practical joke.³⁸

22. April 30. During the day, a number of children observed a flying disk over Green River, Wyoming (no more details available).³⁹

23. April 30. From 7:00 to 7:30 P.M., Mr. and Mrs. James Pace, their three children, and their neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cameron, of Green River, Wyoming, observed a "silvery, shining, round" object hovering high above them. "Mr. Pace focused binoculars on the object in the sky and viewed a 'shining, round light,' standing on its edge like a silver dollar. It was 'very high' in the sky, Mrs. Pace said....After the Paces and Camerons viewed the object, which appeared to be hovering, for about one-half hour, dark storm clouds obscured it."⁴⁰

24. April 30 (or possibly May 1; the date is not clear). Twelve-year-old Robin Leon Beglarian reported that, at 4:30 P.M., he had observed a UFO to "hover for a minute or two" over Mount Olympus, Utah. He estimated it to be about 2,000 feet above the mountain's top. After hovering, it vanished behind Mount Olympus.⁴¹

25. "Last week of April; Parma, Idaho. Kenneth Arnold reported sighting of landed UFO by a "very responsible" farm couple. At 3:30 a.m., a pulsating greenish object was seen on ground, farm animals frightened. Status: Official report requested from state of Idaho."⁴²

26. May 1. At 8:30 A.M., a UFO was spotted over Pueblo, Colorado, by a youth named Leonard Jimenez, his mother, and four neighbors. "The youth said the round, shiny oval-shaped object was moving very high toward the southwest, where it disappeared in clouds. 'It was making a real funny whirring noise,' he noted."⁴³ (Compare Case 21).

27. May 1. At approximately 5:30 P.M., a UFO was seen over Walsenburg, Colorado, by Ross Quintana, custodian at the Lenzini Motor Company. As Quintana was sitting in his car at the Main Street railroad crossing, waiting for a train to pass, he observed to the north of him a "huge, white, and 'very shiny'" UFO with "what seemed to be a hook near the bottom" descending from the west, "apparently preparing to land on the hill facing Hill School. But he added that he lost track of the saucer after a few minutes because of trees in his line of vision." For some reason, Quintana did not investigate further that evening; but, the next morning, "he did go to the area and reported that he saw a V-shaped hole in the ground...."⁴⁴ It is not clear from the newspaper story whether the hole was confirmed by any other persons. Quintana's report has a number of suspicious features, and, while we would not care to assert that it was a hoax, we would not place too much credence in it.

28. "About May 1; Santa Ana, California. Large UFO with rotating orange light on dome observed landing, taking off about 8:30 p.m. Status: NICAP investigating."⁴⁵

29. May 2. At about 8:30 P.M., Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Kerstetter of West

³⁸Alamosa Valley Courier, 5/1/64; Pueblo, Colorado, Chieftain, 5/1/64.

³⁹Deseret News and Telegram, 5/1/64.

⁴⁰Ibid.

⁴¹Ibid.

⁴²NICAP, op. cit.

⁴³Pueblo Star Journal, 5/1/64.

⁴⁴Walsenburg World Independent, 5/7/64.

⁴⁵NICAP, op. cit.

Cameron Township, Shamokin, Pennsylvania, observed a UFO while driving from West Cameron Township to Gowen City. They first saw the brilliant oval object hovering over the Gowen City mountain, and watched it for several minutes. "I slowed down the car and both of us watched the object which appeared to have been all lit up," Mrs. Kerstetter reported. "It seemed to be at a high altitude and just disappeared over the mountain toward Shamokin. From what we could see of it, the shape appeared to be oval and there was an object like an exhaust extension protruding from it. It definitely was not any type of aircraft such as a high flying jet."⁴⁶

30. May 3. About 8:30 P.M., "a bright unexplainable light in the sky" was seen over Lake Erie from Mentor, Ohio. "John D. Hadden, Lake County deputy sheriff and manager of Mentor Park, reported he saw it. So did 2 Mentor policemen who declined to give their names 'because nobody would believe us.'"⁴⁷ Hadden first saw the object in the east, moving from north to south very slowly. It stopped, remained motionless for five minutes, then suddenly expanded (came nearer?) from the size of a softball to 15 inches at arm's length; it subsequently diminished again after about a minute. The UFO then "suddenly shot away to the right (South) at extremely high speed. It passed behind the tops of trees in the line of sight and emerged into the clear, describing a curving path which ended abruptly in considerably less than 10 seconds. It had moved through 120° azimuth in that space of time, and was last seen nearly S-W of their position. Its disappearance came at only a slightly higher elevation than when hovering, which was about 20°."⁴⁸ Hadden described the light as a round, yellowish-white, soft glow. The same object was seen in the north at the same time by a woman near Painesville, about five miles southeast of Hadden's position. Shortly afterward, patrolman Don Janz saw the UFO in the south from Mentor-on-the-Lake. "The light's elevation at first sight was only 8½°, and in an almost south direction (a few degrees E). The light was stationary.... At arm's length, it was 11" from edge to edge.... This area is about ½ mile from the Willoughby city-line, and not far from the lake. The calculations made showed an elevation angle between 8-10 degrees, at an azimuth angle of 155°.... Janz did not see the object disappear; it was gone when he looked again. - Duration -- 20 minutes."⁴⁹

31. "May 5; nr Comstock, Minnesota. Farmer Alfred Ernst, 8:30 a.m., saw oval UFO take off from field, rise quickly into overcast. Depression, imprints found at site. Status: Investigation completed, witness reliable. Soil samples to be analyzed."⁵⁰

32. May 9. Three young children, Cheryl Glunt, John Owens and Bernie Montello, claimed to have seen a UFO land at Mogadore, Ohio, at about 11:00 A.M. "The children were playing in a field east of Route 532. One of the children claims to have seen a domed flying saucer (typical) come down from the (S) and land in the east part of the field where it inclines downward. Two declared the object to 'be round, silvery -- and seemed to get larger -- then smaller.' The third child claimed there was a silvery, domed part, but it was part of a larger craft. He paced off its apparent size from 150 yards as 9 feet from edge to edge."⁵¹ Investigation by A.E. Candusso indicated that the children were telling the truth.

33. May 10. At 10:00 P.M., a luminous UFO was observed about seven

⁴⁶ Shamokin News-Dispatch, 5/4/64.

⁴⁷ Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/5/64.

⁴⁸ FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ NICAP, op. cit.

⁵¹ FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

miles south of Hutchinson, Kansas, by Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Casey of Fort Hays State College, as they were driving toward Hays on U.S. Route 183. The UFO, a yellowish-red light "as large as the sun appears and brighter than a star," appeared to be at an altitude of 1,000 feet to the west of the Caseys' car, flying parallel to the highway at about the speed of the automobile.⁵²

34. May 10. There were numerous sightings of a bright light over Cottonwood Butte, Idaho, apparently beginning about 10:00 P.M. It was seen to pulsate, change shape, move about the sky, and was variously described as "cigar-shaped, oblong, round, and shaped like a 6-sided doughnut."⁵³ The sightings "apparently centered above the radar station on Cottonwood Butte...."⁵⁴

35. May 11. Cottonwood Butte was again visited by the mysterious light, beginning about 9:30 P.M.⁵⁵ At Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, the UFO was observed by Mr. and Mrs. James Gallagher. Mrs. Gallagher reported: "We saw it about 10:15 o'clock, it was very bright -- much brighter than a star -- and was high in the sky to the northwest. The light was steady and we watched it for a few moments. Later we looked for it again and it was gone."⁵⁶

36. May 11. A UFO "similar" to that described in Case 40 (see below) was observed for three minutes in the northwestern sky by a motorist driving toward Drummond, Montana.⁵⁷

37. May 12. Another UFO like that of Case 40 was seen that night from Stevensville, Montana.⁵⁸

38. May 12. The UFO of Cases 34 and 35 returned for the third and last time to Cottonwood Butte; the sightings began at 9:30 P.M. (The do-it-yourself UFO explainers moved in on the case the next day, led by the Cottonwood Chronicle, which set afloat the theory that the elongated, mobile UFO was actually the planet Venus -- adding, with disarming ingenuousness: "Try searching for the planet in the vicinity above the moon today (Thursday) and if the sky is clear you probably will have no difficulty locating it with a set of binoculars."⁵⁹ Or, if you consider this solution too pedestrian and unimaginative, you might try the alternative explanation proposed by Sister Helen Frances, director of nursing training at St. Joseph's Hospital: the UFO sightings were caused by "helium-filled penny balloons which have been released from the roof of the hospital each day this week in observance of national hospital week."⁶⁰ Sister Helen Frances did not say whether the balloons were coated with phosphorescent paint or merely made of luminous plastic.)

39. May 13. Two sightings -- one of a near-landing, the other of a landing -- were reported from Rio Vista, California. The former sighting was made by Mrs. Walter McKarley, the wife of a Rio Vista high school trustee, and three of her children. She first observed the UFO while in her car with her son Bruce at about 10:15 P.M.; it appeared as a light near the ground, which slowly rose, took on a spherical shape, and apparently approached her car at a distance of about a quarter of a mile. As she drove away, it followed her, but stopped whenever she stopped. Mrs. McKarley said that "there were 2 objects, one above the other the distance in altitude varying, but the one on top much smaller but too distant to be an antenna although -- in Mrs. McKarley's opinion -- possibly a remote control device."⁶¹ Mrs. McKarley picked up two other sons,

⁵²Hutchinson News, 5/12/64.

⁵³Lewiston, Idaho, Tribune, 5/14/64.

⁵⁴Cottonwood, Idaho, Chronicle, 5/14/64.

⁵⁵Ibid.; and Lewiston Tribune, 5/14/64.

⁵⁶Coeur d'Alene Press, 5/14/64.

⁵⁷Lewistown, Montana, Daily News, 5/16/64.

⁵⁸Ibid.

⁵⁹Cottonwood Chronicle, 5/14/64.

⁶⁰Lewiston Tribune, 5/14/64.

⁶¹Rio Vista River News-Herald, 5/20/64.

Alan and Brent, and attempted to approach the object for the next hour or so; however, it continued to imitate the automobile's movements, and kept at the same distance. "Finally, after an hour, in the vicinity of the high school, it disappeared over the horizon, and although there was still a little glow for a while it did not appear. The secondary 'remote control' object remained in the sky for a while, however."⁶² That night (unfortunately the exact time is not given), a Rio Vista teacher who insisted on remaining anonymous observed a UFO "in the shape of a banana...flattened and thin, not circular, belching fire streaks along its underside. It had two white lights, and came down close to the ground, hovering or touching the earth, then took off in a red haze at great speed. Next day several members of my own teenage class reported seeing it as did the wife of an official of the Rio Vista school system [Mrs. McKarley, apparently]...Crowds of Rio Vista people have gone out to see where the earth was scorched but someone covered the spot over with a canvas. That some new and strange flying object touched down at Rio Vista there can be no doubt."⁶³ We do not have any details on what the investigation of the scorched earth revealed.

40. May 14. Shortly before 11:00 P.M., Mrs. Otto Ford of Pittsville, Montana, with her husband and three children, watched a UFO for fifteen minutes. "Mrs. Ford described it as round like a golf ball and extremely bright, below the level of some clouds in the area and having pock marks. But she said she couldn't tell if they were some time of window. Several times the object faded, she said, then brightened; was huge in comparison to the stars she could see and much closer to the ground. It was not flashing. There was no pulsation."⁶⁴ The object, which the Fords watched through a telescope, finally faded away.

41. May 14. From 11:15 to 11:45 P.M., Mrs. M.J. Metz and Mrs. Leo Metz of Finley Point, Montana, watched "a strange light in the sky" which seemed to be hovering over Hot Springs. "Mrs. M.J. Metz saw the object casting an eerie glow in an oval shape. Then it went behind a cloud -- or a cloud came between it and earth -- and the light glowed out from behind the cloud, bright enough to silhouette the mountains. After about a half hour it disappeared into the distance."⁶⁵

42. May 15. Thirteen-year-old Denise Platt, her mother, Mrs. Marjorie Jones, and her aunt, Mrs. Letha Barrows, of Golden, Colorado, were driving toward Grand Junction on Highway 6-24 near De Beque when they observed an odd star-like object in the heavens. Denise said: "Its tail was real red and a little blue. We saw it for 5 or 10 minutes and it didn't seem to move. Then, all of a sudden, it fell at an angle, away from the highway. It didn't leave any trail as it fell but the whole mountain lit up when it exploded, apparently when it hit the ground....I was scared."⁶⁶

43. May 15. Pat Minette, a school teacher of Winifred, Montana, was driving from Lewistown to Winifred with Mrs. Orville Bolstad and her three children that night; during the trip, they made three separate sightings. Minette said that, at 10:28 P.M., just north of Lewistown, he observed a UFO which looked like "a big car in the sky. It was big and had very bright headlights, and was circular shaped." It had "an extremely wavy motion -- like a float bobbing on the water. It was headed toward us and then went straight over the Judith Mountains."⁶⁷ The UFO was in sight for about four minutes.

⁶²Ibid.

⁶³Dixon, California, Tribune, 5/21/64.

⁶⁴Lewistown, Montana, Daily News, 5/16/64.

⁶⁵Flathead Courier (Polson, Montana), 6/21/64.

⁶⁶Grand Junction, Colorado, Daily Sentinel, 5/17/64.

⁶⁷Lewistown Daily News, 5/16/64.

Near Hilgor, the motorists saw the UFO again -- "it appeared on the horizon in the west and when it flew from sight it left a glow on the horizon."⁶⁸ The last observation was made "about 6 miles south of Winifred. It wasn't any higher than 100 feet and it looked very big. This time it gave off more of an 'orangish' glow occasionally turning to a red glow. It seemed to pass over Winifred as if making a question mark and then completely disappeared, just like that."⁶⁹

44. May 15. At about 11:00 A.M., four office workers at the Permanente Cement plant in Montana City, near Helena, Montana, observed a silvery disk flying silently in the direction of Butte. The UFO was in view for about three minutes.⁷⁰

45. May 15. Shortly before 5:00 P.M., a young boy allegedly saw "a chrome object that went put-put!... He also said it made a whirring sound and then disappeared."⁷¹ The location of the sighting was Kearsarge, Pennsylvania.

46. May 15. Mrs. Richard Gross, of Erie, Pennsylvania, "reported that her two sons, 8 and 10 years old, told her they saw something 'funny' in the sky Friday night when they were getting ready for bed about 9:30 p.m."⁷²

47. May 15. Erie, Pennsylvania: "Shortly after 10 p.m., John Maki, 14, ... and his friend, Larry Rocha, who were sleeping outside spotted two unusual objects in the sky. According to Maki's description, they were 'all orange and glowing.'"⁷³

48. May 15. At approximately 11:50 P.M., two truck drivers and a motorist⁷⁴ reportedly observed a shiny UFO resting in a clump of bushes by the side of Interstate 90, seven miles southwest of Ashtabula, Ohio. As the witnesses approached to investigate, the UFO, which was described as being "as large as a trailer-truck," changed color to a deep orange (apparently it was originally non-luminous but then began to glow), and rose slowly to an altitude of about 400 feet. It hovered for a moment, "then zoomed straight up out of sight.... Rumor has it that several people on and off the road saw the UFO. According to my source, the lane next to where the object ascended, was shut off for 20 minutes or more."⁷⁵ In any case, Ohio State Highway Patrolmen checked the ground with Geiger counters and found it slightly radioactive (500 millicentgens). The police described the witnesses as "perfectly sincere."⁷⁶ A number of details (e.g. the shape of the UFO) are missing, but the account nevertheless seems well-authenticated and factual.

49. May 16. "A man who wished to remain unidentified called the Times-News office Saturday and reported seeing a tripod parked in a picnic area near Erie, Pennsylvania, early Saturday morning."⁷⁷

50. May 17. At 11:25 P.M., James Ball, of Millcreek, near Erie, Pennsylvania, phoned the local police to report a "bright stationary light" which he had sighted hovering over Lake Erie through the telescope from his hunting rifle. Patrolmen James Barrett and Donald Vogt went to Ball's home and also

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ Helena Independent Record, 5/15/64.

⁷¹ Newton Square, Pennsylvania, County Leader, 5/14/64.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ The motorist's name was given as Bill Mitchell, of Long Beach, California. The truckers' identities are uncertain, but "the Times News learned that one... was driving for the Roadway Express Truck Co. of Akron, Ohio... either Joe McCluggage or Carl Smith, both of Akron" (ibid.).

⁷⁵ FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

⁷⁶ Newton Square County Leader, 5/14/64.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

saw the UFO. Prior to their arrival, Ball said, the light had "played a beam of light upon the lake."⁷⁸

51. May 17. There were several reports of a UFO from Anaconda, Montana, that night. "From the West Valley, the object appeared to be egg-shaped and orange and silver in color. It was watched through a telescope as it moved south in the skies and disappeared over the horizon into the Big Hole country..."⁷⁹

52. May 17. At 8:40 P.M., at Hays, Kansas, two students at Fort Hays State College observed "an unidentified bright light moving across the sky in a northwesterly direction.... Fred Patterson and Roger Pittman told officers the object appeared larger and faster than an aircraft. The boys said they saw the light for about 10 seconds.... They did not include the estimated size or speed of the object in their report. A check with Central Airlines in Hays revealed that none of their planes were in the area during this time."⁸⁰

53. May 17. Around 9:30 P.M., at least six sightings were reported from a relatively small, roughly rectangular area about twenty miles southwest of Akron, Ohio. At 9:25, a UFO was observed from Burbank in the southeastern sky by a Shell Station manager named Steve Toth. The red-orange ball of light hung stationary at about 10° elevation for five minutes, then moved slowly into the south at 45° elevation. It then erratically jerked up and down, changed its color to white, and moved away toward the west after about fifteen minutes. In North Lawrence at 9:25, a huge pinkish-orange luminous sphere was seen hovering over the Fire House from a home to the west of it by two women and three teen-age girls. As the women watched, the UFO made a few jerky forward movements and then flew over their house at an altitude of about 100 feet, changing color from deep orange to white as it did so, and making a "whirring" sound. It then descended rapidly and appeared to be landing around an artificial lake, although the terrain blocked the observers' view. About ten minutes later, one of the girls said that she "saw a white light ascend and then travel swiftly out of sight to the W blinking white and orange as it went... from the area where the descent of the original sighting was made."⁸¹ North Lawrence is approximately east-south-east of Burbank.

Candusso adds that "two 6 year olds, at least one a boy -- said he saw a not or something dangling from the descending UFO. I don't know their relationship to the [other witnesses] at this time. The boy was emphatic about this claim."⁸² In view of the artificial lake, this item seems significant. A different description of what was apparently the same object was given by Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Meyers, who, while approaching North Lawrence from the south in their car, "sighted a stationary object near the area of the Fire House, somewhat east. The object started to move across their path, parallel to the railroad that runs E-W past the pond. The object was made up of 3 bright lights; two in front and one in back.... The object moved E to W at high speed and altitude."⁸³ I cannot explain the discrepancy in the descriptions except to say that it may be due to different perspective.

At 9:30, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Veigel and their 14-year-old son Darryl observed a UFO with two bright lights (not on the same plane) and possibly a dim light behind them, hanging stationary in the sky, as they were driving along Route 30 between Dalton and East Greenville, about four miles south of

⁷⁸Erie Times, 5/18/64.

⁷⁹Anaconda Standard, 5/20/64.

⁸⁰Hays Daily News, 5/18/64.

⁸¹FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

⁸²Ibid.

⁸³Ibid.

North Lawrence.⁸⁴

The final sighting of the night was made by Don Frye from his residence on Route 5, between Wooster and Smithville, between ten and fifteen miles to the west of North Lawrence; it began at 9:30 P.M. and lasted for almost two hours. The UFO, which was evidently not identical with the North Lawrence object, was first seen as a greenish-white starlike light at an elevation of about 20° in the eastern sky. As Frye watched, "the object...began to rise slowly, changing gradually to yellowish, and then to a brilliant orange, when it reached the top of its ascent" at about 30°. It then descended to its original position, accompanied by a reversal of the color change: the cycle involved five minutes' rise, three to four minutes' remaining motionless at 30°, five minutes' descent, and eight to ten minutes' remaining motionless at 20°. After performing several of these cycles, the UFO flew toward Frye at 150 to 200 mph and passed over his head at an estimated altitude of 1500 feet, making a faint whirring noise. Frye described it as greenish-white, "round-elong on the bottom; sort of like a turtle's shell seen from underneath. The bottom was smooth, and 3 greenish-white lights were seen there. Two were in front, and one in back. They were extremely brilliant and if his estimate at altitude was correct...could've been 18 inches across....As it moved away he noticed that the top part was obscured by a greenish cloud-like vapor that seemed to go along with the unidentified flying object."⁸⁵ The UFO vanished in the distance in the west-north-west.

Subsequent investigation of the North Lawrence landing disclosed that "complaints of heat in the fire house at 9:30 P.M. were made. The main transmitter seemed to have overheated, and it couldn't be used. It was a temporary situation however."⁸⁶ This item should be especially noted by students of electro-magnetic effects associated with UFO's. In addition, when the Universal Mehrlichtian Society (Modina UFO group) checked the area around the artificial lake for radioactivity, "a high reading was found by the ion-chamber device, near the NW shore."⁸⁷

This series is certainly one of the most important events of the 1964 flap, and may be profitably compared with the Oldon Moore case in 1957.⁸⁸

54. May 18. Shortly after 7:30 A.M., Michael Bison, 10½-year-old farm boy of Hubbard, Oregon, ran terrified into his house and blurted out a strange story of a UFO landing. Between 7:00 and 7:30, he later told reporter Dana Lothian, he had left his home "to put the cow out in the field. Usually she can't wait to get out there. Monday she was crosswise in the stanchion and seemed very nervous. I had to load her out. She was bawking all the way. When we got to the barn door, I started to lead her out in the field and then I saw this bright silver thing in the middle of our 40-acre wheat field." The UFO was estimated to be less than 200 feet from Michael at the time. "It was square, about the size of a kitchen table and about 4 feet high, and made of some kind of very bright metal. There was a cone on the front and it had four legs, shiny like the rest of it." (The picture conjured up by the reference to the "cone on the front" is not at all clear; possibly "on the top" was meant.) Michael continued: "It was making a beeping noise and it began to take off, going real slow at first about to the height of a telephone pole and then it really whooshed" (it "zoomed up like a rocket," the boy had earlier described

⁸⁴Ibid.

⁸⁵Ibid.

⁸⁶Ibid.

⁸⁷Ibid.

⁸⁸Michol, op. cit., pp. 252-55.

the latter phase of the UFO's takeoff⁸⁹). "My cow," added Michael, "has never acted like that before."⁹⁰ Very frightened, Michael ran back into his house and told his mother of his experience (he was "pale as a ghost," she said, and "so scared his lips were quivering"⁹¹). About 8:00, Mrs. Bizon and a neighbor, carpenter Ray Mortensen, went into the field. Mortensen said: "The wheat was flattened out like the petals of a flower, as if a terrific wind blast had flattened it out from the center." (The center of the "flower" was described elsewhere as "an almost perfect circle about 3 foot in diameter where the wheat had been evenly flattened."⁹²) "It was even in all directions, not like an animal would trample and mess up the wheat. I saw the 3 dinner plate size spots [outside the circle] where Mike said the legs had rested. The 4th was dim because it was on ground a tractor had run over and the earth was harder there." He commented on the cow's behavior: "I was raised on a farm and I know cows don't get frightened because they imagine something. Mike said that cow was really scared."⁹³ Almost everyone, including AF Lieutenant Frank Resao, seemed disposed to accept Michael's sincerity; and we shall follow suit. The cow's terror has numerous parallels in UFO history,⁹⁴ and the marks left by the UFO may profitably be compared with some of the strange traces associated with the 1963 British "orators."⁹⁵

55. May 18. There were a number of sightings that night from Howard, Tipton, and Hamilton Counties in north-central Indiana. The only specific report given in the newspaper story is the following: "Howard County Deputy Joseph Johns said yesterday that he saw an object shaped like 'a large, bright red bulb' through binoculars Monday night about 4 1/2 miles north of Kokomo. The object moved on a steady northwest course and appeared at times to be speeding along at treetop level, Johns said."⁹⁶

(Note: Sightings were also reported in those counties on the night of May 17 [no details available], which we neglected to insert in this chronology at an earlier point. They should, however, be taken into consideration in orthotonic studies.)⁹⁷

56. May 19. Many UFO sightings were reported in the Indiana counties listed above; about twenty reports were made at Kokomo, and Tipton and Hamilton County officials received an approximately equal number apiece; the value of the sightings, however, may be somewhat dubious. "At Cicero, Town Marshal [a name seems to be omitted here] said he spotted a 'bright orange object which changed to a bright white' in the western sky about 10:10 p.m. By 11:30 p.m. Cook said he had been joined by State Troopers Paul Boomershine and James Bradley and Hamilton County Deputy Sheriff James Poland, all of whom reported seeing the object as they were driving in the vicinity. The lawman also saw a somewhat dimmer light moving in the eastern sky."⁹⁸ While lack of details prohibits an evaluation of this sighting, it should be noted that Venus set in the west on that date at about 11:00 P.M., and the brilliant star Vega was in the eastern sky.

57. May 20. There were reports from Marion, Ohio, that night which were almost identical to the sightings at Lansing, Michigan, on May 22 (see Case

⁸⁹Canby, Oregon, Herald, 5/21/64.

⁹⁰Portland Reporter, 5/21/64.

⁹¹Ibid.

⁹²Canby Herald, 5/21/64.

⁹³Portland Reporter, 5/21/64.

⁹⁴Civilian Saucer Intelligence, "Shapes in the Sky," Fantastic Universe,

November 1958, pp. 106-13.

⁹⁵NJ-AT Bulletin, November 1963.

⁹⁶Indianapolis Times, 5/20/64.

⁹⁷Ibid.

⁹⁸Ibid.

60, below).⁹⁹

58. May 20. At about 11:05 P.M., a luminous oval object was seen for four to five minutes through binoculars by Mrs. Helen Jones and her 19-year-old son Robert, of Industry, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Jones said that the UFO moved slowly in a south-north direction in the western sky. The object was bright orange, had two small "windows" which glowed a pale yellow, and appeared to be spinning on its axis.¹⁰⁰

59. May 21. "Miss Marti Howland, 1625 Roseland, reported seeing three objects that looked like large stars, most of the time in a straight line, but sometimes in a V-shaped pattern," over Kalamazoo, Michigan, that night.¹⁰¹

60. May 21-22. There were at least five separate strange aerial incidents over Lansing, Michigan, during the night:

At 8:25 P.M., a woman observed an "oblong object with the corners squared off" flying rapidly eastward at a high altitude. The UFO was luminous, bluish-white, and "covered with a cellophane-like material."¹⁰²

Fifteen-year-old Jo Ann Bush reported that, at 9:55 P.M., "she had seen an object hovering at Prospect and Clifford Streets. She said it was very bright and about 15 feet in diameter."¹⁰³

Between 11:15 and 11:30 P.M., a woman "saw a star move" eastward. Satellites invariably travel from west to east, but the woman nevertheless insisted that the object was not a satellite.¹⁰⁴

A woman "heard a loud humming or buzzing sound at 1 a.m. bearing a close resemblance to that made by a helicopter, but was prevented from seeing anything because of trees in the yard."¹⁰⁵

At 3:00 A.M., a bluish luminous UFO flew rapidly across the sky (for some reason, the direction is mentioned in neither of our sources¹⁰⁶), making a terrific racket that was heard by hundreds of Lansing residents and variously described as "roaring like a freight train," "a pulsating whining noise," and "whirring noise that started low and got so loud and highpitched it scared us." Elmer Spears, like most of the dozen or so actual witnesses, described the UFO as "like a falling star, but instead of falling it was going straight across the sky."¹⁰⁷ Mrs. Edward Cole, however, said that it "looked like an upside down 'bowl'...about as large as a small airplane, but was round, and light colored. She said it was turning around and moving forward at the same time."¹⁰⁸ A somewhat different account was given by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nourse, who described the UFO as "a flat shaped object with something underneath that 'looked like a red dome,'" and who claimed to have seen it again at 3:20.¹⁰⁹

61. May 22. Hazelton, Pennsylvania: "Three pulsating flashes illuminated the sky at 4 a.m. yesterday, an early morning fisherman and his sons reported. The man, who declined to be identified, said the three second flashes were seen in the north-east section [of the sky, apparently]."¹¹⁰

⁹⁹Lansing State Journal, 5/23/64.

¹⁰⁰Beaver, Pennsylvania, County Times, 5/23/64.

¹⁰¹Kalamazoo Gazette, 5/25/64.

¹⁰²Lansing State Journal, 5/22/64.

¹⁰³Ibid.

¹⁰⁴Ibid.

¹⁰⁵Ibid.

¹⁰⁶Ibid.; FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

¹⁰⁷FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

¹⁰⁸Ibid.

¹⁰⁹Lansing State Journal, 5/22/64.

¹¹⁰Hazelton Standard Sentinel, 5/23/64.

62. May 22, Hopkinsville, Kentucky. About 9:00 a.m., high school cafeteria employees witnessed landing and take-off of round UFO. Object emitted four beams of light. Grass flattened. Status: Report from member in town, under investigation."111

63. May 22. A UFO (no description given) was observed hovering over the desert northeast of Phoenix, Arizona, by several persons. At the request of Luke AFB, the Phoenix Air Defense Sector ran a radar check on the UFO, and reported: "Object's altitude between zero and 17,000 feet - 10 miles in length [171] - It is nothing mechanical - remaining stationary - The only thing we can figure it to be is a layer of heavy smoke or smog."112

64. May 22. Lansing was again visited by UFO's that night; three UFO's were observed by Mrs. Rose Kugel, her son, her daughter, and her next-door neighbor, on three separate occasions. Mrs. Kugel said that they were "about the size of a coffee cup" (a totally meaningless estimate), moving at "a tremendous speed," and "way, way up." Two of them went from northwest to southeast, and the third from west to east, although she did not specify which of the sightings she was referring to. At 9:00 P.M. a "rather reddish" object was observed; at 9:45 and 11:00 "shiny...and sort of bluish" UFO's were seen. "Through her binoculars, the last one appeared to be round and had a bunch of little white lights that glowed beneath it."113

65. May 23. Fourteen-year-old Rodney Knolton, of Memphis, Tennessee, reported the following: "May 23, at the golf tournament, I was under a tree near the 18th green when I saw a round, glowing silver colored object with a pipe or something sticking out the end. It traveled slowly."114

66. May 24. Mike Neal, of Bartlett, Tennessee, reported: "Last Sunday night about 8 or 8:30 I was on the expressway going east when I saw that 'beautiful unearthly blue' light about half a mile to my right. I've got witnesses."115

67. May 24. Alan Whitten, of Henderson, Tennessee, reported: "Last Sunday night a little past 8:30 we saw a green and white light blinking on and off rapidly as it headed north-northeast. It could not have been a conventional plane, an Echo satellite or a firefly."116

68. May 25. At about 8:25 P.M., Ken Ramsley of Memphis saw a UFO "going from northeast to southwest, moving fast and flashing very rapidly."117

69. May 25. Another UFO incident occurred over Lansing, Michigan, at 3:45 A.M., when Delta Township Fire Chief Dexter Reuckert was awakened by a loud buzzing sound. Upon going outside, he saw a UFO hovering over the fire station (of the North Lawrence, Ohio, report -- Case 53). "The moon was out and the sky was clear," said Reuckert. "The thing had a white light coming from the bottom of the object. All the time there was this strange, loud buzzing which sounded something like a jet. It didn't pass over, but rather hung over the firestation (sic) for about a minute, and then moved east toward Lansing." As the UFO moved away, the white light went out but the noise persisted for some time, fading out slowly.118

70. May 25. That night, "the Wheeling Airport received a call from a

111 NICAP, op. cit.

112 Phoenix Republic, 5/23/64.

113 Lansing State Journal, 5/23/64.

114 Memphis Commercial Appeal, 5/31/64.

115 Ibid.

116 Ibid.

117 Ibid.

118 Lansing State Journal, 5/25/64.

pilot, flying at 23,000 feet, who reported that he saw a bright object south of Pittsburgh, Pa...no other details..."¹¹⁹

71. May 25. At approximately 8:15 P.M., a luminous UFO was observed by numerous residents of Morgantown, West Virginia. "One observer said it looked like a burning plane with a parachute coming from it. The second person described it as like a brightly burning, spinning top which was moving in a generally east direction. It stopped momentarily, then disappeared. The last witness thought it looked like a burst of fire about 1 1/2 miles up."¹²⁰

72. May 25. Numerous residents of Wheeling, West Virginia, including several policemen, observed a "bright ball of fire that left a vapor trail similar to that of a jet...flash from east to west" and burn out."¹²¹

73. May 25. At 8:28 P.M., Al Fister of Akron, Ohio, observed a glowing green UFO. "A glow attracted his attention about 55° high. Something green seemed to be rushing down at a 30° angle....It resolved itself swiftly into a trail that looked to him like a 4" pipe of soft 'phosphorous green.' It became a 'long, green, glowing neon tube,' he declared....This phenomena (sic) reached a position which took it above and to the left of Goodyear Tire Plant No. 3 on Seiberling Ave. (about 25° elevation). 'It suddenly twisted, like a top spinning, and seemed to change direction,' he said. It looked like a small football, (horiz) and around its center there was a pinkish-red glow. Suddenly, it all disappeared leaving him with the impression of a pinkish (some violet) glow around a ball-like object. This glow was in the form of a Saturn-like ring and resembled St. Elmo's Fire. No sound or smell. The direction when first seen was 20° E of N -- when last seen was 30° S of E."¹²²

74. May 25. At 8:30 P.M., two neighboring women at a location four miles north of Salem, Ohio, observed a "flying light bulb" streaking in a southeastern direction across the sky. "It seemed to be dropping slowly, then burst as it neared the ground," said one of the witnesses, Mrs. Earl K. Moore. The same object was seen by a third woman, Mrs. Paul Fletcher, from the Northfield Park race track, Niles, Ohio."¹²³

75. May 25. A "sighting" (no more details) was reported that night by Barry Dickson, an attorney of Petersburg, Ohio (four miles north of East Palestine).¹²⁴

76. May 25. At approximately 8:15 P.M., a pilot flying at 23,000 feet over Windsor, Ontario, Canada, observed a "ball of fire" to the south of him."¹²⁵

(Note: "Authorities" have lumped Cases 70-76 together into one and explained it as a very bright meteor. While that explanation has some merit, and we do not reject it entirely, if it is to be accepted some of the observational data must be thrown out. For one thing, the direction of travel reported in Case 72 is the opposite of that reported in Cases 71, 73 and 74. Second, the stopping and/or reversal of direction reported in Cases 71 and 73 are not in conformance with the behavior of meteor(ite)s, nor are the other details of the Akron sighting. Third, the times of the sightings, while close, are not in exact conformance. However, a number of facts do support the meteor theory, and it would be a bold UFO buff who would ignore the possibility.)¹²⁶

¹¹⁹FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

¹²⁰Ibid.; also, Wheeling, West Virginia, News Register, 5/26/64.

¹²¹Wheeling News Register, 5/26/64.

¹²²FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

¹²³Ibid.

¹²⁴Ibid.

¹²⁵Wheeling News Register, 5/26/64.

¹²⁶Ibid.

77. May 25. Once again, a UFO was reported over Lansing, Michigan; thirteen-year-old John C. Gallagher reported that, between 4:30 and 4:45 P.M., he "saw a disc shaped object over the Michigan Avenue Bridge going west at a height of about 50 feet above treetop level. He says the object turned along the side and appeared 'flat and round', was soundless, and left no vapor trail. At one point, he said, it suddenly glowed. He was unable to estimate size or speed but said it moved 'smoothly'."127 An estimate of the boy's reliability was not included in the newspaper story; while we would not care to brand his account a hoax, it does seem odd that no one else saw the UFO.

78. May 27. At approximately 11:20 P.M., three girls, Vicki Knight, Susan Hughes and Debra Laster, of Memphis, Tennessee, observed "a strange object...moving at a terrific speed and flashing blue lights."128

79. May 31. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wyant of Opportunity, Montana, reported that they had observed a UFO at 10:00 P.M. on a high mountain near Lost Creek. It "was about the size of a small washtub, deep orange in color, round and glowing. They said it was stationary about a minute in one spot and then disappeared. A half circle glow followed for about a half minute."129

80. June 1. At night, "Mr. and Mrs. Rodeffer spotted a 'very brilliant star with reddish overtones' moving against a background of fixed stars.... The UFO made a sharp left turn, then a U-turn, zig-zaggod, and stood still. The object rocked, moved again, and finally 'shot straight up' out of sight. The manouevors lasted for about 30 minutes. When the object paused in flight, a 10-power binoculars revealed details of a strange undercarriage."130

81. June 3. At 8:45 P.M., a UFO was seen by Edward Coyle, mine foreman at Coppermine, Arizona, about twenty miles south of Page. Coyle noticed an object, "egg shaped with a light near the upper front portion and a red reflecting mistlike glow...moving from NE to SW. It appeared to be 500-1,000 feet above the ground and was moving faster than Coyle's pickup truck." Coyle and nine other persons watched the UFO for fifteen minutes until it vanished in the distance. The newspaper account adds, somewhat perplexingly: "Howard, night watchman at the mine, watched the object for approximately one half hour. He reported a second UFO which was at a further distance and to the south."131

82. June 4. Observers at several lookout towers in the Apache National Forest of Arizona ("Big Lake, Green Peak, Fox Mountain, New Mexico, Escudilla, P.S. and Blue Stations") saw that night a phenomenon which is vaguely described as "an arc halo, extending beyond the edges of Burnt Mtn. 40 miles SW of Hagar... the lights in the arc halo lasted 5 to 10 minutes. After the biggest impact was gone, a curved vapor and lesser light remained several minutes"132 -- whatever that may mean.

83. June 8. A rather obscurely phrased report in Saucer Researcher tells how, after three teen-agers reported hearing "shrill sounds and seeing a 'greenish-blue glow'" in a wilderness pasture near Burlington, Colorado, seven unnamed men went out in a car to investigate. They reportedly saw a UFO with "a center object that was brighter than the rest of it.... A 'spot-light' from the object lit up the whole inside of the car."133 No further details are provided.

127 Lansing State Journal, 5/27/64.

128 Memphis Commercial Appeal, 5/31/64.

129 Anaconda, Montana, Standard, 6/3/64.

130 Saucer Researcher, May-June 1964; published by the Flying Saucer Research Organization (FSRO), 427 Washington Street, Carlstadt, New Jersey, 07072.

131 Phoenix Republic, 6/6/64.

132 Ibid.

133 Saucer Researcher, May-June 1964.

Postscript: The following sightings were accidentally omitted from the chronology. To avoid confusion, we are not numbering them.

April 26. At 10:00 A.M., "a motorist on Route 70 near Socorro reported seeing a bright object in the vicinity of Round Mountain."¹³⁴

April 28. Carl Hookman, a Union Pacific Railroad engineer, "said that he and other train-men saw an egg-shaped fireball disappear behind a hill while their train was stopped in northern Wyoming."¹³⁵

April 29. Two sightings were reported from South Lawrence, Massachusetts: "Shortly before 8:30 pm, Allen LeBoeuf, 10, saw something like a moving star drifting along in a northeasterly direction. The object seemed to be turning and giving off red, green, and white colors. A few minutes before 10 pm Edward Tromblay, 15, went out in his back yard to look at the stars with binoculars. He saw a large oval shaped object giving off yellow light...something like a football."¹³⁶

April 30. Thirteen-year-old Leonard Gamache, of South Lawrence, Massachusetts, reported "a multi-colored UFO, giving off blue, green, and red lights."¹³⁷

May 1. An identical object was allegedly seen by Gamache and his parents.¹³⁸

May 8. At 9:30 P.M., Mrs. Beth Gonzi of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, observed a large, yellowish, roughly rectangular light, about three times as long as it was wide, hanging "motionless under the solid cloud layer....It pulsed on and off regularly and after 10 minutes, it just disappeared. The angle of elevation was 35° W, made no sound, and no ground-based beam was seen. Clouds 12,000 scattered and a cirrus overcast."¹³⁹

May 9. There were four sightings that afternoon in the Four Corners area of Colorado and New Mexico (exact times not given). The first sighting was made by Mrs. J.M. Watkins (exact location not stated), who saw two UFO's "flying about 200 feet off the ground...50 feet long, cylindrical in shape but with long pointed noses and apparently supported by fins." The same or similar objects were seen about an hour later near Mesa Verde National Park by a man from Mancos, Colorado; two separate sightings of a similar object, "tumbling in the air," were made subsequently from Farmington, New Mexico.¹⁴⁰

These reports bring the total of sightings listed here from the 1964 flap to ninety. If any readers can call our attention to any sightings which we may have omitted, we beg them to call our attention to them.

(Note: Due to lack of space, the Appendix, containing the complete text of the Air Force report on the Zamora sighting, will have to be omitted.)

¹³⁴Ibid.

¹³⁵Ibid.

¹³⁶Ibid.

¹³⁷Ibid.

¹³⁸Ibid.

¹³⁹FSIC Bulletin, June 1964.

¹⁴⁰Saucer Researcher, May-June 1964.

7/6/64

Dear Dale,

Pardon this abominable scribbling, but I am
frightfully rushed right now. Hope you enjoy the
Bulletin.

I'll write to you from Israel, and hope you'll be
able to answer.

Dave

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